UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO ALBUQUERQUE DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	CASE NO: 1:21-CR-01510-KWR
Plaintiff,)	CRIMINAL
vs.)	Albuquerque, New Mexico
CHRISTOPHER MARQUEZ,)	Friday, November 12, 2021
Defendant.)	(1:43 p.m. to 2:14 p.m.)

ARRAIGNMENT / DETENTION HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE LAURA FASHING, UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

For Plaintiff: ALEXANDER F. FLORES, ESQ.

U.S. Attorney's Office

P.O. Box 607

Albuquerque, NM 87103

For Defendant: DEVON FOOKS, ESQ.

Federal Public Defender's Office 111 Lomas Blvd. NW, Suite 501

Albuquerque, NM 87102

U.S. Pretrial/Probation: Anthony Galaz

Court Reporter: Recorded; Liberty: Hondo-Remote

Clerk: N. Maestas

Transcribed By: Exceptional Reporting Services, Inc.

P.O. Box 8365

Corpus Christi, TX 78468

361 949-2988

Proceedings recorded by electronic sound recording; transcript produced by transcription service.

this way because of the COVID 19 pandemic and we're just trying

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    to keep everybody as safe as possible?
              THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.
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              THE COURT: All right. And so normally I would have
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    you sign a written waiver but I just want to make sure that
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    after you spoke with Mr. Fooks, are you in agreement with
    proceeding with this hearing by video?
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              THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.
                          Is anybody forcing you to agree to that
              THE COURT:
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    or has anybody threatened you to get you to agree to do this by
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    video?
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              THE DEFENDANT:
                              No, Your Honor.
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              THE COURT: All right. I find that you have
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    knowingly and voluntarily waived your right to be personally
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    present in the courtroom for this hearing and that instead
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    you've agreed to proceed by video.
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              All right. So as I mentioned, we are here for an
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    Arraignment and a Detention Hearing. We're going to do the
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    Arraignment aspect of the hearing first.
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              And so let me ask you, Mr. Marquez, have you received
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    a copy of the indictment that's pending against you?
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              THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.
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              THE COURT: Have you had a chance to read that
2.3
    indictment and discuss it with Mr. Fooks?
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              THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.
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              THE COURT:
                           Have you discussed with Mr. Fooks both
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    the charges that you are facing, as well as the potential
    penalties?
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              THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.
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              THE COURT: Do you understand what those charges are
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    and what the potential penalties are?
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              THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.
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              THE COURT: Mr. Fooks, what is your position with
    respect to reading the indictment?
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              MR. FOOKS: Mr. Marquez will waive a formal reading
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    and enter a plea of not guilty to all four of the counts
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    contained in the indictment.
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              THE COURT: All right. So I will enter a not guilty
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    plea on your behalf, Mr. Marquez, as to the four counts in the
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    indictment.
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              This case is assigned to Judge Riggs and she will set
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    the trial date.
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              Your motions are due on December 2nd and I will issue
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    a standard discovery order.
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              Now, with respect to detention, let me first ask the
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    Government. Are you in agreement with the recommendation of
    Pretrial Services?
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              MR. FLORES: I believe so, Your Honor, let me just
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    pull that back up -- for continued detention, yes.
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              THE COURT: Yes. All right.
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              And Mr. Fooks, what is your position?
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1 MR. FOOKS: Your Honor, we would ask that Mr. Marquez 2 be released on his own recognizance, or if Your Honor desires some additional safety or precautions, that he be allowed to 3 reside at the La Pasada Halfway House. I'm prepared to make 4 5 argument on that if you'd like to hear it now or whenever 6 you're ready. 7 THE COURT: Well since it's the Government's burden 8 here, I will start with the Government; and ask you, 9 Mr. Flores, if you will tell me why it is you think that 10 Mr. Marquez is either a flight risk or a danger to the 11 community. And also, could you please tell me whether, from 12 your perspective -- sorry, is this a presumption case or not --13 so if you would address those issues and then I'll hear from 14 Mr. Fooks. MR. FLORES: Your Honor, thank you. I could be wrong 15 16 but I do not believe it's a presumption case based on the fact 17 that it is an assimilated crime. I could be wrong; I'd be happy for you to correct that, Your Honor, but I don't believe 18 19 it is. 20 I'll start, Your Honor, with the nature of the 21 charges. 22 The top line, Count One, is abuse of a child. 23 can see from the language in the indictment, the allegation is 24 that the Defendant allowed a child under the age of 18; and in

fact, in this case, that child was the age of five years old --

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There were instruments of the crime -- the crimes, plural, that were found in that home and there's also evidence, Your Honor, of the Defendant's consciousness of guilt; that is, he intentionally hid from police for some amount of time, months, and on the day that he was arrested, noticed that police were nearby, attempted to flee. And by "fleeing" I don't mean a high-speed pursuit or anything of that nature, but he saw police while he was close to his home and on the way to

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his home and turned around to avoid them, to avoid it looking like it was in fact him but he was pulled over by an officer in the pueblo who recognized either him or the car he was in in order to effectuate the arrest.

An arrest warrant had been out for the entire period between the last day of the allegations here and when he was finally arrested. That arrest warrant was issued by the pueblo and of course there was no arrest warrant in the federal system until the indictment was brought by the grand jury.

Nevertheless, during the entire period, he was not only a flight risk but had been fleeing police and hiding from police willfully.

Later, BIA Agent Donald Vigil interviewed the

Defendant briefly and he didn't provide much information.

There was a rights advisement and such that he waived but he did ask Agent Vigil, "Did you come by my house in a" -- and he described a certain type and color of truck because he'd been watching for police to come by his home and police and the agents knocked on his gate, attempted to get his attention on multiple occasions because they believed he was home and he was not forthcoming. Now --

THE COURT: You --

MR. FLORES: Go ahead.

THE COURT: I'm sorry, I just wanted to say, you said

25 | the evidence was strong but tell me about that evidence.

MR. FLORES: Sure.

So Your Honor in this case the child and the mother allege that the Defendant abused the child for over a month by intentionally inflicting bodily harm upon her. She was admitted to a hospital in Espanola and then life-flighted to the University of New Mexico for higher echelon care where it was determined that she had multiple broken ribs, a broken wrist, she had lacerations to her organs internally and some other injuries from the abuse.

The allegations are that the Defendant would force her to do wall sits for hours on end, that he would strike and punch her, that he would tie her legs together with an exercise band and pull it out from under her when she wasn't acting in a manner satisfactory to him.

Agents in the home found evidence of a place in the wall where he had thrown the child into the wall. And the mother would describe how she could hear her child being thrown into the wall in the other room and there's evidence of that as well as blood on the walls, we believe, though there were swabs taken and those are being tested but believe that there was blood on the wall.

And then some of the instruments that were used in the course of the abuse were also found. For example, the child would allege that the Defendant would hit her with children's books on her back and on her buttocks until the

bindings on those books would break. Those books were found, one or two of them at least. The exercise band that was allegedly used was found in that home.

an older child of his around the face and eyes of the abused child here and the child was able to describe that those were pink pants. The mother described that they were probably of a certain size and the agents found that particular pair of pants that matches the description of what was used on the child which, by the way, the tying of those pants around the child's eyes also caused injuries to her eyes.

Additionally, Your Honor, the child alleges that the Defendant would sometimes record the beatings, the assaults on his cellphone. Electronics in this case have been seized, although they have not yet been searched owing to a backlog at the laboratory as to handle that kind of work but there's reason to believe that some videos may be stored which would provide further evidence of the actual abuse, direct evidence.

Your Honor, with that I'm also moved just to say as you look to the Pretrial Services Report, there is a pattern of similar violent criminal history; in particular, domestic violence. And so based on the nature of the crimes alleged here, based on this history, the United States offers that the Defendant is both a danger to the community, as well as a flight risk.

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sexually?

In fact, the victims here, Your Honor, have essentially fled. They are in hiding. We are in touch with them so we do have contact with them and they are willing participants in the prosecution but they have essentially cut themselves off from their networks that the Defendant is aware of so that he may not be able to access them in potential safe houses in the local community, for example, where they might seek safe haven. I should return just to your question quickly, Your Honor, about the strength of the charges, the counts, the allegations in this case. To Counts Two through Four which deal with Jane Doe 2 who is an adult, there is also substantial evidence that these counts are true. For example -- or that they are substantiated. For Counts Three and Four, the abusive sexual contact, the victim alleged, for example, that the Defendant would use a long silver shoehorn being a foot or two in length and that was found in the bedroom where he resided hanging near the bed. And a shoe brush or another type of shoehorn that was used in the bathroom, per the victim's allegation, was also found on the premises. Finally, I'll say Your Honor --THE COURT: And those were used to assault the victim MR. FLORES: That's right, Your Honor.

So the shoehorn, for example, was used to strike the victim on her buttocks without her consent to the point of causing bruising and extreme pain. When she would say to stop, she would try to stop it herself and he wouldn't allow it. And in fact he would say to the victims in different contexts, to the adult victim in Counts Three and Four, to the child victim in Count One -- which we're not alleging is a sexual assault but he would say to both of them in those different contexts that he was asserting himself as the alpha, as the dominant force in the household, and so he wasn't taking kindly to them saying no or to stop. He would continue to inflict that abuse.

THE COURT: All right. And what about Count Two?

MR. FLORES: Count Two, Your Honor, is based on an allegation by the adult victim of having been strangled during the course of assaults. That happened at a time long before the reports were made and so I'm not offering evidence as to Count Two for danger to the community or flight risk based on the strength of the other three counts at this time.

THE COURT: All right. Was there any physical evidence found on the adult victim with respect to this abuse?

MR. FLORES: I don't recall that there was, Your

23 Honor.

THE COURT: And then remind me what the potential

25 penalties are.

MR. FLORES: Your Honor, the potential penalty for Count One is 18 years of incarceration, a fine of up to \$15,000; up to three years of supervised release, and of course for all four counts the special penalty assessment.

For Count Two, up to 10 years of incarceration, and now for Counts Two through Four, they all have the \$250,000 fine.

And for Counts Three and Four, zero to three years of incarceration; and specifically, not less than five years and up to life of supervised release for each of those two.

THE COURT: All right. Sorry, did you have anything else?

MR. FLORES: I want to address, Your Honor, the question of injuries to the adult. Let me bring that up.

(Pause)

There were injuries observed on her body during an examination where she disclosed the domestic violence. They included bruises, scarring and bite marks. They are attributed to the Defendant specifically. This was during the course of a SANE examination. And the adult victim did disclose during that examination that -- and this was to a medical provider -- that the sexual assault was related to domestic violence and that the partner did use forms of violence and she said yes. She also divulged there or revealed that she had been strangled or choked by the abuser during those periods.

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              THE COURT:
                         And I'm sorry. The injuries were what?
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    They were bite marks and what else?
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              MR. FLORES: Bruises, scars and bite marks.
              THE COURT:
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                         Okay.
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              MR. FLORES: So obviously, Your Honor, that
    particular charge is very specific. 113(a)(8) to strangling
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 7
    and suffocating. So as I say, there was evidence of bite
            There are allegations of biting but you don't see that
    here in the indictment so I don't want to use that as evidence
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    per se but you did ask were there any injuries observed and
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    there were and they were attributable to the Defendant.
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              THE COURT: All right. And then and I just was -- I
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    don't know if you know any of this information but I suppose
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    it's possible. I think for a minute your agent might have been
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    on here but there was -- there's an indication that he failed
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    to appear on a misdemeanor charge on October 14th. Do you know
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    anything about that because that wasn't all that long ago. Do
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    you know what that charge was for?
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              MR. FLORES:
                           No, Your Honor. I know of a 2013
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    instance -- oh, I see, October 14th. I do not know, Your
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    Honor.
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              THE COURT: Okay. And so earlier there was two prior
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    batteries against a household member where the disposition is
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    unknown. Do you know anything about those? One was in 2013,
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the other in 2019.

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              MR. FLORES:
                           I do, Your Honor. I don't believe those
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    were pursued fully based on victim participation. But if you'd
    like more information, either we can bring the agent on --
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    although I don't know if he has information on those either, or
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    I can try to dig into that for you in just a few minutes.
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              THE COURT: I just wonder who the victim is, if it's
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    either of the victims here.
                           They were not the same victims but they
              MR. FLORES:
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    were prior members of a domestic household, you know,
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    ex-girlfriend, et cetera.
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              THE COURT: All right. And the victim here, I note
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    in the Pretrial Services Report there's -- the Defendant's
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    ex-wife provided some information and I just wonder -- and
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    again, I'm assuming that that person is not the adult victim in
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    this case. Is that correct?
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              MR. FLORES: That's right, Your Honor.
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              THE COURT: All right. So Mr. Fooks, I
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    will hear from you.
              MR. FOOKS: Well that's a pretty big proffer, Your
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    Honor, all I have is the indictment. I'm kind of at a
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    disadvantage here as I don't have any of that information. So
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    I'll make what argument I can but I'm going to ask that the
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    information that Mr. Flores was relying on to make his proffer
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    to the Court, that I be allowed to see that and address it
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    before the Court makes a final ruling.
                                            I mean he just spoke
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for about 20 minutes on a bunch of information that I've never seen before and I can't address.
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THE COURT: Sure. I mean do you want -- I don't know what you want to do about that. We could -- we could -- we could continue this. We could also -- I mean if you wanted some time, we could put the agent on for testimony and you could cross examine. I mean I know -- I understand that especially in these types of cases where you don't have a criminal complaint, you know, there's going to be a lot of information that it's hard for you to address because this is the first time you're hearing about it.

MR. FOOKS: Yeah. I think what I should have said,
Your Honor, is I think we're going to need a continuance. I
haven't spoken with Mr. Marquez about anything Mr. Flores said.
I certainly have some thoughts on some of the other things but
it occurs to me that it may be best however Your Honor wants to
handle it but that you hear it all at once instead of piecemeal
from me, in other words, doing some now and then some when we
continue it later. But I can address what I can now or we can
-- it seems to me the more prudent path wants you to continue
it but I'll do it however Your Honor likes.

THE COURT: It's --

MR. FLORES: Your Honor, I think the agent might be in the waiting room if that factors into your decision.

THE COURT: No, I think --

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              MR. FOOKS:
                         It doesn't factor into mine. It's not
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    the agent that I'm worried about; it's talking to Mr. -- it's
 3
    talking to Mr. Marquez a little bit more about it and seeing
    some of these allegations because just off the top of my head,
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 5
    Counts Three and Four, based on what Mr. Flores said it sounds
    like they should be dismissed. It doesn't sound like it was
 6
 7
    for sexual gratification, they sound like assaults or
 8
    aggravated assaults to me.
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              THE COURT: Well obviously these are indictments and
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    so I'm not going to --
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              MR. FOOKS: I understand but in terms of talking
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    about the strength of the case.
              THE COURT: Sure.
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              MR. FOOKS: I wasn't moving for it to be dismissed;
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    I'm just saying that's an issue that jumps out right away when
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    we talk about the strength of the case. Well, it's a problem
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    as I see --
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              THE COURT: Sure --
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              MR. FOOKS: -- it anyway.
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              THE COURT: Although that kind of conduct can relate
    to danger to the community, whether it's actually in support of
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22
    a particular count or not, right?
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              MR. FOOKS: No question, Your Honor, no question --
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              THE COURT:
                          Okay.
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              MR. FOOKS:
                          And as long as we're talking about the
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    strength of the case I mean that's -- it sounds like a he-said-
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    she-said which does not sound like a strength, a very strong
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    case; it sounds like a 50/50 proposition at best; but again,
    I'd know that Mr. Flores has proffered a bunch of other
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 5
    evidence that I'm not able to meet. So let me just go ahead
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    and move to continue the detention hearing and just let Your
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    Honor rule on that before we get too far into it.
              THE COURT: Okay. Well my problem is is that my last
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 9
    day of duty is Monday. Do we have Santa Fe on Monday?
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              THE CLERK: We actually do so it's not going to be an
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    issue.
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              THE COURT: Can we do it till Monday, Mr. Fooks?
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              MR. FOOKS: Sure. If Mr. Flores can send me that
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    information, I'd really appreciate it.
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              THE COURT: Umm --
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              MR. FLORES: So --
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              THE COURT: Go ahead.
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              MR. FLORES: So Your Honor -- and Mr. Fooks, sir,
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    Wednesday, we sent you a proposed motion for a protective order
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    and we haven't heard back on that. So I intend to give you
21
    everything but hopefully under the auspices of a protective
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    order.
23
              MR. FOOKS: Sure, I don't oppose. You can note that.
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              MR. FLORES: Okay. So Your Honor, we'll file that
25
    and if that could be acted upon and then try to push everything
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1 out as soon as we can here.
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- THE COURT: Okay, yes. So I'm going to note that
- 3 Mr. Fooks, you do not oppose the proposed protective order that
- 4 Mr. Flores sent to you. And given your non-opposition, if
- 5 Mr. Flores forwards -- I'm assuming I -- can I sign off on that
- 6 given that it's assigned to Judge Riggs? Normally I think she
- 7 | would sign off on it. I'm wondering if we could get Judge
- 8 Riggs to sign off on it today. I would think we probably could
- 9 but I actually don't know for a fact that she's here today but
- 10 | I think -- who's her courtroom, it's --
- MR. FLORES: Carol Bevel.
- 12 **THE COURT:** Oh, okay. Ms. Maestas, do you think we
- 13 | could see if we could get that signed off on today? And as
- 14 | soon as that's signed off on, Mr. Flores, you can send what you
- 15 have to Mr. Fooks?
- MR. FLORES: Yes, ma'am.
- 17 **THE COURT:** All right. Does that seem adequate?
- 18 I suppose, Mr. Fooks, if you need a further
- 19 | continuance, you might want to file some sort of motion. Does
- 20 that seem okay?
- 21 MR. FOOKS: That's fine, Your Honor. Yeah, I can do
- 22 that.
- 23 **THE COURT:** Okay. But given -- let's go ahead and
- 24 reset this hearing for Monday afternoon at 1:30. And let me
- 25 | just ask you, Mr. Flores, do you have any objection to that?

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              MR. FOOKS: Actually I'm looking at it now.
    presentation's at 2:00 o'clock. I'm looking at -- I'd note
    that we have Mr. Vigil on the calendar for 1:30. And I was
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 4
    going to talk to Your Honor about that once we went off the
 5
    record on this case to give you an update. I mean, there's
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    like 60 people coming to this presentation. I don't know if we
 7
    can move it.
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              THE COURT: Sure.
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              THE CLERK: You want to do it (indisc.) clock?
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              THE COURT: Can we do -- what's another day that we
11
    might be able to do Santa Fe?
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              THE CLERK: I can't tell you that right now. There's
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    like -- I ...
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              THE COURT: Well, I don't know what to do.
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              THE CLERK: I don't have the schedule --
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              THE COURT: How long is your presentation going to
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    last?
                         I have it scheduled from 2:00 to 4:00.
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              MR. FOOKS:
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              THE COURT: Okay well we can't do it after 4:00.
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              MR. FOOKS: I can do it at 1:00.
21
              THE COURT:
                          Do you think we can schedule Santa Fe at
22
    1:00?
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              THE CLERK: Yes, I think we can.
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              THE COURT:
                         All right. So let's -- we'll have to
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    note that we need to start right at 1:00 o'clock.
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1 MR. FOOKS: Thank you.
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THE COURT: Right at 1:00 o'clock on Monday to finish
this detention hearing; but again, until then, Mr. Marquez, I'm
going to order that you remain in custody.

5 All right. But we'll reconvene at 1:00 o'clock on 6 Monday.

Yes, Ms. Maestas?

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THE CLERK: I'm sorry. I just want to make sure.

Was the order submitted to Judge Riggs' chambers?

10 MR. FLORES: It has not been.

THE CLERK: Okay. Will you do that, is it possible because I'm messaging her courtroom deputy and she is going to let Judge Riggs know. She's not in the office though but the sooner we can get it -- or that you can get it to her so that she can get it signed off.

MR. FOOKS: And just -- I'll just put this on the record for whatever it's worth, Mr. Flores.

I've agreed to your -- I'm not opposing the protective order. If you send me the discovery, I will not show it to anyone. It'll reside on my computer and that's where it'll stay; I won't disclose it to anybody else, most importantly. I obviously will not be sending it to Mr. Marquez for what it's worth.

MR. FLORES: That says a lot. So Your Honor what I'm going to do is get on the ball to get Mr. Fooks the evidence

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1
    right now, send Carol, Ms. Bevel, the documents, get that ball
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    rolling and then formally file the documents in CM/ECF last
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    instead of first.
              THE COURT: Okay, that sounds fine.
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              MR. FLORES: All right. Thank you.
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              MR. FOOKS: Thank you, Mr. Flores, I appreciate it.
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              MR. FLORES: Thank you, sir.
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              THE COURT: All righty. So we'll see everybody again
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    at 1:00 o'clock on Monday.
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              MR. FOOKS:
                          Sounds good, Your Honor.
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              MR. FLORES: Thank you, Your Honor.
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              THE COURT: All right.
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         (Proceeding adjourned at 2:14 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATION

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

sin / Julian

December 28, 2021

Signed

Dated

TONI HUDSON, TRANSCRIBER